



Padre Island National Seashore
SandDollar



Friday, April 2, 2004

Superintendent

Since arriving at Padre Island, I have been looking for a photograph or perhaps a painting that we could use as our “signature” photo for special acknowledgments or recognitions of park partners and employees. The management team has viewed the works of two local professional photographers, and while we have certainly been impressed with several of these photographs, none to date has been the “that’s the one” kind of piece.

So in that regard, I am excited to announce to all park employees and park volunteers that we will hold an all park photo contest. If you are one those talented photographers or artists that would be interested in having your work become a park signature photo or painting, I encourage you to participate.

The photograph or painting should be scenic in nature and capture the essence of Padre Island National Seashore. Some ideas I think would make for the kind of photograph we are hoping for, is dramatic sky, beach and gulf, or coastal prairies and Laguna Madre. Individual wildlife photographs are not what we have been hoping to find, but birds or wildlife in a scenic might be just the ticket.

So, if you would like to submit up to three pieces by April 26th to Marilyn, squad will review on Tuesday the 27th. Now just to make things a little more fun, the winner will receive a very nice prize. The contest is limited to NPS, PAIS employees, or park VIP’s.

Good luck, and have a little fun!

Colin

Colin's schedule:

Monday, 4/5

– Out of the Park; A/L

Tue-Fri, 4/6-4/9

– In the Park

Safety Notes--

Your contributions are greatly appreciated for the SandDollar and the safety bulletin board. Please send safety contributions to Pat.

Let's continue to encourage each other to be safe.

Make it a safe day.

Administration

If you have a Lotus Notes account, you need to update your personal information, such as address and phone number, whenever it changes. To do that, you'll need to create a web password, if you don't already have one.

Go to <https://my.nps.gov>.

New! CREATE/CHANGE NOTES WEB PASSWORD

Create/Change Your Internet Password for viewing Discussion Databases or iNotes from a web browser. Select from the following options to change your password:

I KNOW MY PASSWORD AND WANT TO CHANGE IT

I DO NOT KNOW MY PASSWORD

CHANGE ADDRESS INFORMATION

Change your phone no, address, etc. in the Notes NPS Name and Address Book.

If you already have a web password, then click on **CHANGE ADDRESS INFORMATION**.

If you don't have a web password, then click on **I DO NOT KNOW MY PASSWORD** to create one. You'll have to wait about 24 hours for it to become effective. Then go back to my.nps.gov and update your information.

You can also use the web password to access Lotus Notes while you're on travel. From any NPS computer, go to my.nps.gov and click on

MAIL JUMP- ACCESS INOTES

The GOV Online Learning Center has added two new courses on telework. One course is directed at employees and the other course is for managers.

TEL Courses

Description of courses can be found at www.telnpns.net

Apr 8	A Supervisor's Guide to Workers' Compensation
Apr 15	The Numbers Tell a Story: Fireline Refresher Training
Apr 19	Retirement Planning for New Employees
Apr 20	IDP Module 210 - Prepare and Present an effective conducted Activity
Apr 26	NPS Recreation & Preservation Programs

The trailer will be used for TEL training on Apr 8 and 15.

Facility Management

Maintenance is starting to install the ADA toilets at BIB. One toilet will be installed at the boat ramp and the other at the primitive campsite.

The Americorps team will be on their Spring Break from Thursday, April 8 to Monday, April 12. Their last day of work will be Tuesday, April 13.

Interpretation

Just a reminder that the Spring Adopt-a-beach will be held on April 24. Phil needs three volunteers to work the registration desk. If anyone is interested, please contact him.

Protection

Entry fees collected by entrance station personnel are running ahead of last year's totals.

Congratulations to Randy Scoggins who has been selected to be a squad leader on the Intermountain Regional Special Event Team.

Resources Management

Projects:

- The placement of the new bird nesting signs on the spoil islands has been completed. The signs were donated by Texas Parks and Wildlife, US Fish and Wildlife, and the Audubon Society. The signs prohibit entry or landing on the spoil islands between February and August in order to protect nesting colonial waterbirds. **The project was completed on Thursday, March 25 by David Poe and Americorps. Thanks so much for your help.**
- The National Audubon Society is providing an intern to assist with a Snowy and Wilson's Plover survey. The entire Texas coast is included in the survey and will focus on nesting and hatching success. Steve Liptay has been selected as the intern. He arrived in the park on March 29 and will be staying at the new trailer near the ranger housing from now till August.
- Katie will be sampling the washover basin at the 46-MM every other Wednesday. Anyone interested in helping please contact Katie.
- Mist-netting for neotropical migrants has started. We have placed nine nets in the willow mottes near BIB and three in the cane in front of headquarters. On Tuesday April 30, there was a major fallout of birds resulting from a front occurring on Monday. **Thanks to Perky, Americorps, Hollis, Shelby, and Luis for helping with the collection and banding of the birds.** The planned schedule for mist-netting is every Monday and Thursday from 7am-12 pm until the middle of May. These dates may be adjusted depending on weather. Anyone interested in helping please contact Darrell or Katie.

- A special thanks to Americorps for their help with cleaning the bins and assisting with our various resource projects.
- We are again working on the park's mailing list, which will be used for planning documents and other needs. We are requesting that if you have any new contacts that you believe should be added to the list, please forward those to Darrell as soon as possible.

Oil and Gas:

- Arlene is assisting Big Thicket National Preserve by writing an Environmental Assessment for a drilling operation that will be conducted this summer.

Division of Sea Turtle Science and Recovery

We want to thank everyone from the staff that helped with training and orientation of seasonal biological technicians during the last two weeks. We greatly appreciate the time that you took to make these employees feel welcome to the park and to impart information to them that will be critical to their work this spring and summer.

Patrollers start your engines!!!! Repeated daily patrols by volunteers and staff, and the camping trips, will begin on Sunday April 4. As warm as the last few weeks have been, Donna thinks that Kemp's ridleys may start nesting on the Texas coast relatively early this year. The earliest that a Kemp's nest has been documented on the Texas coast was April 7-8.

Please immediately report any nesting Kemp's ridley sea turtles or sea turtle tracks that you see to Donna. Also immediately report to her any reports about nesting that you receive from the public. Handouts requesting the public to report sightings will be distributed from the Entrance Station and Visitor Center again this year. These handouts have been very effective at generating reports in years past and we thank everyone that has helped produce and distribute the handouts.

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